

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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SUBJ: 30TH UNGA--GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF
MEXICO, LUIS ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA PROPOSED A NEW APPROACH TO
INTERNATIONAL POLITICS BASED ON THE CONCEPT "PEACE IS
DEVELOPMENT" TO REPLACE THE LAW "MIGHT MAKES RIGHT."
HE OFFERED CERDS AS "AN UNQUESTIONABLE ADVANCE" TOWARD CREATING
THIS NEW ORDER. HIGHLIGHTING VARIOUS ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL PROBLEMS,
ECHEVERRIA TOLD SOCIALIST COUNTRIES THAT THEIR SUPPORT FOR
THIRD WORLD DEMANDS IN VARIOUS FORUMS SHOULD BE REFLECTED
"WITH EQUAL VIGOR IN THE SPHERE OF ACTIONS." HE DEFENDED
OPEC ACTIONS, BUT CALLED FOR A NEW ORDER IN WHICH PRODUCTION
AND PRICES WERE TAILORED TO THE OVERALL INTERESTS OF MANKIND.
WHILE AFFLUENT NATIONS SHOULD PAY A "FAIR" PRICE FOR
RAW MATERIALS, ECHEVERRIA ALSO URGED OPEC COUNTRIES TO
RECOGNIZE THE "SERIOUS IMBALANCE" CREATED FOR COUNTRIES
LACKING OIL AND TO STOP "SUPERFLUOUS INVESTMENT" IN DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES. AFTER REVIEWING VARIOUS SOLUTIONS TO ECONOMIC
PROBLEMS, ECHEVERRIA ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICO HAD ESTABLISHED
AN OPEN UNIVERSITY AND AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF THE THIRD WORLD TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
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"DIVERSIFY THEIR EXCHANGES." TURNING TO POLITICAL PROBLEMS,

HE CALLED FOR PROGRESS TOWARD DISARMAMENT AND DISCUSSED THE MIDDLE EAST. HE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR PANAMA IN ITS "JUST DEMAND" AND "RATIFIED" THE PETITION ON SPAIN WHICH MEXICO HAD SUBMITTED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, EXPLAINING THAT "BOTH TECHNICALLY AND POLITICALLY, REASON IS ON OUR SIDE." HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICO HAD DECIDED TO ESTABLISH AN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE REACHING 200 MILES FROM ITS COASTS, ADDING THAT "THIS IMPLIES AFFIRMATION OF OUR FULL SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE RESOURCES OF THE ENTIRE GULF OF CALIFORNIA." IN CONCLUSION, ECHEVERRIA URGED REINFORCEMENT OF THE DECISION-MAKING CAPACITY OF THE GA, ADDING THAT THE RECENT REFUSAL TO ADMIT THE VIETNAMS WAS A "CAUSE OF GRAVE CONCERN TO US ALL." HE CALLED FOR A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF MATTERS SUBJECT TO VETO AND THE EXTENSION OF THE RIGHT OF VETO TO ONE OR MORE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF REFORMING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THROUGH THE UN, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA EXPLAINED HOW THE ADMISSION SINCE 1945 OF MANY OF THE WORLD'S DIS-POSSESSED PEOPLE NOW ENABLED THE UN TO FUNCTION AS "A FORUM FOR THE IMPLANTATION OF AN AUTHENTIC INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY." HE ELABORATED A "NEW MENTALITY" TO REPLACE THE LAW OF "MIGHT MAKES RIGHT" WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY GOVERNED WORLD POLITICS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE WEAK. THIS NEW CONCEPT WAS "PEACE IN DEVELOPMENT." ECHEVERRIA NOTED THAT THREE-QUARTERS OF MANKIND WAS DETERMINED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE UN NOT WITH THE INTENT OF REVENGE, BUT THROUGH "STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE IDEALS OF DEMOCRACY." HE URGED THE NEW MAJORITY TO BE READY BOTH TO BEGIN "THE TRANSFER OF A LARGE PART OF THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS" THAT FORMERLY DELONGED TO THE MINORITY AND TO PRESENT COHERENT ANALYSES AND VALID ALTERNATIVES.

3. ECHEVERRIA PRESENTED CERDS AS "AN UNQUESTIONABLE ADVANCE" TOWARD CREATING A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER. HE EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS NEITHER DESIGNED TO PIT THE RICH AGAINST THE POOR NOR DIRECTED AGAINST ANY SPECIFIC NATION. POINTS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE, HOWEVER, COULD NOT BE SACRIFICED FOR UNANIMOUS APPROVAL. ECHEVERRIA DECLARED THAT "THE CHARTER IS OPEN--AND WILL BE IN THE FUTURE--TO DIALOGUE AMONG NATIONS, AND IMPLACABLY CLOSED

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TO ALL PRETENSE AT DOMINATION." HE BELIEVED THAT EVEN THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH VOTED AGAINST CERDS WOULD SOON RECOGNIZE ITS PRINCIPLES AS "EVIDENT TRUTHS."

4. ECHEVERRIA HIGHLIGHTED THREE FACTORS WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO DOMINATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM: TRADE IMBALANCES, THE FLOW OF CAPITAL, AND CULTURAL DEPENDENCY. CRITICIZING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR WORSENING INEQUALITY AMONG STATES

AND INCREASING THE DEBT BURDEN OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ECHEVERRIA CALLED FOR NEW FINANCIAL MECHANISMS TO ENABLE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO SURVIVE IN A COMPLEX AND "CONCENTRATED" INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM.

5. HE ADDRESSED THREE DIFFERENT GROUPS OF COUNTRIES. WHILE WELCOMING THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES' SUPPORT IN VARIOUS FORUMS FOR THIRD WORLD DEMANDS, HE TOLD THEM THAT "THIS ATTITUDE SHOULD ALWAYS BE REFLECTED, WITH EQUAL VIGOR, IN THE SPHERE OF ACTIONS." HE THEN UNDERScoreD ACTIONS AND CRISES IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE AGGRAVATED THE PLIGHT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FINALLY, ECHEVERRIA DEFENDED THE ACTIONS OF RAW MATERIAL AND OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, BUT STATED THAT "WE HAVE THE OBLIGATION TO ESTABLISH THE HISTORIC CONDITIONS FOR A NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER IN WHICH PRODUCTION AND PRICES ARE ADJUSTED TO A SCHEME THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE OVERALL INTERESTS OF MANKIND." THE AFFLUENT NATIONS "MUST PAY A FAIR PRICE FOR RAW MATERIALS, INCLUDING OIL." THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES ALSO "MUST NOT FORGET TWO ESSENTIAL THINGS: THE "SERIOUS IMBALANCE" CREATED FOR COUNTRIES LACKING OIL AND THE FACT THAT HIGH PRICES WILL SPUR THE DEVELOPED WORLD TO MAKE SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY. ECHEVERRIA RECOGNIZED THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OPEC MEMBERS TO LDC DEVELOPMENT, BUT URGED INCREASED ASSISTANCE AND A STOP TO "SUPERFLUOUS INVESTMENT" IN THE "OLD METROPOLISES." HE CALLED FOR A STUDY OF MEASURES WHICH WOULD PREVENT NON-OIL PRODUCING LDCS FROM SUFFERING THE "CONSEQUENCES OF PRICE IMBALANCE."

6. ECHEVERRIA THEN DISCUSSED VARIOUS MECHANISMS TO RESOLVE THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS HE HAD OUTLINED. HE RECALLED MEXICO HAD PROPOSED AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE THIRD WORLD AND EXPLAINED THAT THIS SYSTEM WOULD BE BASED ON A UNCLASSIFIED

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FINANCIAL FUND AND AN INFORMATION UNIT TO ENSURE THIRD WORLD PARTICIPATION IN THE CONTROL OF THE WORLD ECONOMY. ECHEVERRIA UNDERLINED THE POSSIBILITY OF REGIONAL ORGANIZATION ALONG THE LINES OF THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM (SELA). HE ALSO WELCOMED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AS ANOTHER POSSIBLE FORM OF CONCERTED ACTION.

7. ECHEVERRIA ARGUED THAT "AUTONOMOUS COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS THAT DO NOT DEPEND ON CERTERS OF WORLD DOMINATION" SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED. HE ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICO HAD ESTABLISHED AN OPEN UNIVERSITY AND AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE THIRD WORLD TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES "DIVERSIFY THEIR EXCHANGES." THE INSTITUTE, WHICH WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL IN 1976, IS DESIGNED "TO STRIP DEVELOPMENT THEORIES OF COLONIALIST IMPLICATIONS AND

TO FOSTER THE INTER-CHANGE AMONG POOR NATIONS OF TECHNOLOGIES WHICH ARE APPROPRIATE TO THEIR NEEDS."

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AF-06 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

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8. ECHEVERRIA UNDERScored THE ARMS RACE AS AN "UNJUSTIFIABLE SQUANDERING OF RESOURCES." IN HIS PLEA FOR DISARMAMENT, HE EXPLAINED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP THE ARMS RACE EXCEPT THROUGH "AN INTEGRAL ECONOMIC PROJECT THAT WOULD PERMIT MOVING FROM A WAR ECONOMY TO A TRUE ECONOMY OF PEACE."

9. ON PANAMA, ECHEVERRIA EXPLAINED THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF STATES MUST BE RESPECTED IN THE SETTLEMENT OF TERRITIRIAL CONFLICTS. HE DECLARED THAT "MEXICO, THEREFORE, SUPPORTS ITS SISTER REPUBLIC OF PANAMA IN ITS JUST DEMAND FOR THE RECUPERATION OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE WHOLE OF ITS TERRITORY."

10. ON THE SPANISH ISSUE, ECHEVERRIA "RATIFIED" THE PETITION MEXICO HAD SUBMITTED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 28 "IN THE CONVICTION THAT BOTH TECHNICALLY AND POLITICALLY, REASON IS ON OUR SIDE." MEXICO WAS RIGHT TECHNICALLY BECAUSE THE CHARTER GAVE EACH MEMBER STATE THE RIGHT TO "DENOUNCE" SUCH SITUATIONS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HE BELIEVED HIS GOVERNMENT WAS POLITICALLY CORRECT AS WELL

BECAUSE THE EVENTS IN SPAIN CONSTITUTED "A REITERATED VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS" AND REPRESENTED "THE SYSTEMATIC CREATION OF UNCLASSIFIED

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A CLIMATE OF VIOLENT CONFRONTATION" THAT COULD THREATEN WORLD SECURITY.

11. ON OTHER POLITICAL ISSUES, ECHEVERRIA STATED THAT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST REQUIRED "AN INTEGRAL AGREEMENT WHICH COVERS THE DEPARTURE OF TROOPS FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, GUARANTEES THE BORDERS OF THE STATES IN THE AREA, AND PROVIDES DEFINITIVE RECOGNITION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE." HE URGED THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT BE ACHIEVED WITHIN THE UN FRAMEWORK AND "ON A BROADER RANGE THAN CAN BE PROVIDED BY PARTIAL NEGOTIATIONS....WHICH MAY IN THE MEDIATE FUTURE CREATE EVEN GRAVER PROBLEMS." HE "VIEWED WITH SATISFACTION THE TRIUMPH OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA AND ASIA, AND SPOKE AGAINST CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

12. ON LOS NEGOTIATIONS, ECHEVERRIA ANNOUNCED THAT MEXICO "HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH AN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE REACHING 200 NAUTICAL MILES FROM ITS COASTS BUT NOT AFFECTING NAVIGATION, OVERFLIGHT, OR THE LAYING OF CABLES." HE EXPLAINED THAT "THIS IMPLIES AFFIRMATION OF OUR FULL SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE RESOURCES OF THE ENTIRE GULF OF CALIFORNIA."

13. ECHEVERRIA ALSO RECALLED THE IWY CONFERENCE HELD IN MEXICO AND PLEDGED HIS COUNTRY TO IMPLEMENT THE WORLD PLAN OF ACTION.

14. HE HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED TO REINFORCE THE DECISION-MAKING CAPACITY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, "WHOSE FUNCTIONS ARE CURRENTLY LIMITED, IN COMPARISON WITH THOSE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, IN MATTERS IN WHICH THIS IS NO LONGER JUSTIFIABLE." HE NOTED THAT THE RECENT "REFUSAL" TO ADMIT THE TWO VIETNAMS "IN SPITE OF THE MAJORITY SUPPORT OF THIS ASSEMBLY, DENIES THE MOST ELEMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRACY AND SHOULD BE CAUSE FOR GAVE CONCERN TO US ALL." HE CALLED FOR A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF MATTERS WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO VETO AND THE EXTENSION OF THE RIGHT OF VETO TO ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE THIRD WORLD.

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